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THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARLINGTON

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# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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1954



# DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## 1954 — 55

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*A. G. Newell, J.P.	J. Thompson
*T. N. Naisby	M. E. Walker

\*Members of No. 11 Area Health Sub-Committee

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### Clerk to the Council

J. PATTINSON



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# ANNUAL REPORT, 1954

DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the 73rd annual report upon the health and sanitary circumstances of your district, for the year ending 31st December, 1954.

The following is a summary of the report.

## VITAL STATISTICS

The population has increased in recent years from 10,030 in 1948 to 16,230 in 1954. This is mainly due to the growth of Newton Aycliffe.

### Birth Rate

The number of births increased from 333 the previous year to 386 giving a rate considerably above that of the country generally.

### General Death Rate.

There was a fall of ten in the number of deaths as compared with the previous year giving a correspondingly lower rate and a rate lower than that of England and Wales.

The comparability factor has been used in estimating birth and death rates.

The main causes of death were— Vascular lesions of nervous system 25, Heart Disease 23, Coronary disease 21 and Cancer 21.

### Maternal Mortality

For the 7th year in succession there were no maternal deaths.

### Infantile Mortality

Infant deaths increased from 8 to 10 but the rate per 1,000 live births was very little above that of England and Wales—25·9 as against 25·5. Eight of the ten deaths occurred in the first month of life and of these five were associated with prematurity.

### Infectious Disease

Notifications decreased by 98 as compared with the previous year.

No notifications of typhoid, paratyphoid fever or food poisoning were received. The eight cases of dysentery occurred in a closed community.

One case of Poliomyelitis occurred and full investigations were made as in the pilot study. It was not found possible to trace the source of infection.

There were no cases of diphtheria during the year.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

### Water

Details of the results of bacteriological examinations of water samples will be found in the appropriate section of the report.

In Newton Aycliffe and Great Stainton the improvement mentioned in last year's report was maintained and the quality was satisfactory.

There was a recurrence of unsatisfactory results in the second half of the year in the remaining part of your district supplied by the Durham County Water Board, due to breakdown of chlorinators and burst mains. The position has since improved.

### Housing

The housing survey was completed during the year.

There is a need for many new houses and some of these will be required to replace unfit houses scheduled for demolition in the next five years.

### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

It is obvious from the Surveyor's report that much remains to be done in the provision of sewers and sewage disposal works.

May I acknowledge the courtesy extended to me by the Council and the help given me by the Clerk of the Council and his staff.

I wish to express my thanks to the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector and other members of the staff for assistance in preparing this report and for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

*M. W. Rodgers.*

M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS AND STAFF  
OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

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Medical Officer of Health

M. W. RODGERS, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor

J. D. COLLINS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,  
Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

J. F. ELLISON, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.  
Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Engineering Assistants

J. CUTHBERTSON                      E. STEELE

Sewage Works Manager

J. BLACK

Building Inspector

A. G. OXBOROUGH

Chief Clerk and General Assistant

F. H. HURWORTH

Clerical Assistant

G. V. WORTHY

Pupil Sanitary Inspector

P. J. JEMMESON

*(Returned from National Service, 1st November, 1954).*

Shorthand Typists

MRS. P. LAMBELL                      MRS. M. H. METCALFE

## SECTION A.

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### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural District in acres .. .. .	45,414
Resident population (including forces stationed in the area) .. .. .	16,230
Total number of houses at 31st December, 1954 (including 10 squatters' huts and 127 R.A.F. Married Quarters) .. .. .	4,991
Number of inhabited houses (excluding R.A.F. Married Quarters at 1st April, 1954) ..	4,376
Rateable value at 1st April, 1954 .. .. .	£119,738
Sum represented by a penny rate .. .. .	£498 18s. 2d.
General Rate (excluding additional items and special rates in certain parishes) made in respect of the financial year ending 31st March, 1955 ..	19/0d.

### Social Conditions and Employment

The Rural District almost completely surrounds the County Borough of Darlington. Good communication roads exist between most of the villages and hamlets but bus services are mainly confined to the main roads leading into Darlington. No part of the area is more than about twenty minutes bus run from the Council's Offices in Darlington.

The character of the northern part of the area has changed considerably since the war with the growth of the Trading Estate and the New Town, Newton Aycliffe.

In the Southern part of the area there has been little change in the last few years apart from the permanent establishment of the Royal Air Force and Married Quarters at Middleton-St.-George. There are also two large Brickworks at Neasham and Hurworth.

The rest of the district is primarily agricultural with scattered sand and gravel quarries.

### Newton Aycliffe

Rapid expansion of the New Town of Newton Aycliffe has continued in the year under review. At the 31st December, 1954, 1885 new dwellings of many types catering for all income groups had been completed and occupied ; an increase of 566 during the year bringing the population to approximately 6,000. 345 houses were in course of construction and contracts had been let for a further 322 houses. Site development works have continued to be carried out in advance of building development.

Towards the end of the year the construction of a railway bridge over St. Cuthbert's Way was completed and work continued on the final section of the main road linking the New Town to the



Aycliffe Trading Estate. In constructing this road many redundant buildings on the Trading Estate had to be demolished and this has created alongside the new road an area of approximately 16 acres ripe for industrial development. It is anticipated that the link road will be open to traffic in April, 1955.

In September, 1954, the Sugar Hill Junior School for 360 scholars, the town's second primary school, was completed and work was begun on the first secondary modern school to accommodate 480 children on a site adjacent to Central Avenue and near the Town Centre.

A second Ward Shopping Centre consisting of six shops and a banking office with four maisonettes above was completed in August. This centre will deal with the day to day shopping needs of the residents in Ward "B". By the end of the year the site development works for the Town Centre were well advanced and it is expected that the construction of the first 38 shops by private enterprise in Beveridge Way, the main shopping street, will commence in the spring of 1955.

Work was commenced on the erection of the Parish Church near the Town Centre. The Church is due to be completed in July 1955 and a vicarage adjoining in May 1955.

Confirmation of a proposal by the Licensed Premises Committee under the Licensing Act 1953 for the erection of a second public house was given by the Minister of Housing and Local Government and work was commenced during the year on the public house to be known as the "Oak Tree Inn" in the Ward "A" Centre near the shops in Neville Parade.

As the small Community Centre at Clarence Farm had become far too small to accommodate the recreational needs of the many organisations operating in the Town and there was no possibility of proceeding with the erection of a large Community Centre in the Town Centre work was begun in September on an extension to the existing building. This building, of prefabricated construction, was completed and ready for use on the 31st December.

### **Aycliffe Trading Estate**

The number of tenants now operating on the Estate is 85 and in addition there are 9 various ministerial departments with buildings occupied for storage purposes. The employment afforded on the Estate on the 31st December totalled 3,242 of which 2,168 were males. These figures take no account of the Durham County Police stationed on the Estate. During the period under review 6 new firms have taken premises and buildings are being adapted for two other firms. Only one Company mentioned in last year's report for whom buildings were being prepared have not proceeded with their proposals. The three other firms are now established in their new premises.

Extensions or additional buildings are either planned or in progress in connection with a further five firms. Two firms left the Estate during 1954. The most significant piece of Estate development which has gone ahead during the year is the construction of the new

road known as St. Cuthbert's Way through to Newton Aycliffe and a new debouchment passing through the old North East Gate on to the A.1. This road which it is expected will be completed by the 1st April next will create an easy and simple link between the Estate and the New Town. The enlarged canteen on Avenue D continues to give satisfactory service. The Estate Company has continued the removal of refuse from the factories and following difficulties with refuse disposal at the Council's tip at Brafferton, disposal has taken place at Whiley Hill.

#### **No. 205 Advanced Flying School, Middleton-St. -George**

There were no new quarters occupied during 1954 although 16 were in course of construction.

There are at present 114 permanent married quarters and 13 temporary married quarters, all of which are occupied. The 13 temporary quarters which were converted seco huts have been condemned and as soon as the occupants have vacated their quarters the site will be demolished and cleared.

#### **Employment**

A high level of employment in agriculture and other industries in the district has been fully maintained throughout 1954. The demand for skilled and unskilled building operatives for housing contracts and civil engineering projects has been steady in the area particularly at Newton Aycliffe. On the Aycliffe Trading Estate steady employment was provided for male and female workers in a wide range of industries including engineering, chemicals, plastics, furniture making, and paint manufacture. Unemployment in the area during the year was negligible.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births in the district was 386 as against 333 the previous year.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .. .. .	203	173	376
Illegitimate .. .. .	3	7	10
			<hr/> 386 <hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—21.6.

The rate for England and Wales was—15.2.

Still Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .. .. .	4	3	7
Illegitimate .. .. .	—	—	—
			<hr/> 7 <hr/>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—0.43.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population for England and Wales was 0.36.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) 17.8.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births for England and Wales—24.0.

The total Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population is 22.03.

**Maternal Mortality** Nil.

### Infantile Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 year.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .. .. .	6	4	10
Illegitimate .. .. .	—	—	—
			<hr/> 10 <hr/>

### Infantile Mortality Rate

Death rate of all infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births—25.91

Death rate of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births—26.59.

Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births—nil.

### Analysis of Causes of Deaths in two age groups under 1 month (neonatal deaths) and 1 month to 1 year

NEO-NATAL DEATHS						Male	Female
Prematurity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
Atelectasis with Prematurity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Atelectasis without mention of Prematurity ..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
Birth Injury with Prematurity .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
Birth Injury without mention of Prematurity	..	..	..	..	..	2	0
						<hr/> 5	<hr/> 3
AGE GROUP 1 MONTH TO 1 YEAR							
Pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
Bronchitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
						<hr/> 1	<hr/> 1

Deaths and Death Rate	Male	Female	Total
	82	58	140

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—10.6.

Rate for England and Wales—11.3.

**Table Showing Causes of Death**

				Male	Female
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	.	..	..	2	1
Tuberculosis (Other)	..	..	..	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	..	..	..	—	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	—	—
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	..	.	..	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	—	—
Measles	..	..	..	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	..	..	..	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	..	..	..	3	—
Malignant Neoplasm Lung	..	..	..	4	—
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	..	..	..	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	..	..	..	—	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	..	..	..	4	6
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	..	..	..	—	—
Diabetes	..	..	..	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	14	11
Coronary disease, Angina	..	..	..	12	9
Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	1	1
Other heart disease	..	..	..	16	7
Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	1	3
Influenza	..	..	..	2	2
Pneumonia	..	..	..	2	1
Bronchitis	..	..	..	5	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	—	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	..	..	..	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	..	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	..	2	—
Pregnancy, Child Birth and Abortion	..	..	..	—	—
Congenital malformations	..	..	..	1	—
Other defined and ill defined diseases	..	..	..	8	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	..	1	1
All other Accidents	..	..	..	2	3
Suicide	..	..	..	1	3
Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	—	—
All causes			Totals	82	58

Age Groups	Under 1	1–10	11–20	21–30	31–40	41–50	51–60	61–70	71–80	81–90	Over 90
Deaths	10	3	2	4	3	7	18	29	36	22	6

# MALIGNANT NEOPLASM

The following table gives the deaths from Malignant Neoplasm in age groups and localisation.

Localisation	Age in years												
	1-25		26-45		46-65		66-75		76 upwards		Totals		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Stomach	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	(3)
Lungs	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	(3)
Breast	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	3	(3)
Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	(1)
Other Sites	—	1	—	—	2	2	3	1	—	2	5	6	(11)
	—	1	—	—	6	4	4	2	1	3	11	10	(21)



TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR RECENT YEARS  
AS COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES

Estimated Population of Darl'ton R.D.C.	Years	GENERAL DEATH RATE			INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE			LIVE BIRTH RATE		
		Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate	Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate	Darlington R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate
		No. of Deaths	Rate		No. of Deaths	Rate		No. of Births	Rate	
9,480	1940	120	13.08	14.3	10	73.77	55	151	15.92	14.6
9,570	1941	106	11.07	12.9	11	76.2	59	143	14.9	14.2
9,570	1942	95	10.06	11.6	2	12.9	49	154	16.32	14
9,189	1943	111	12.07	12.1	9	51.84	49	154	16.75	16.5
9,216	1944	111	12.04	11.6	9	45	46	196	21.26	17.6
8,910	1945	122	13.69	11.4	7	45	46	155	17.39	16.1
9,382	1946	114	12.15	11.5	7	46	43	152	16.20	19.1
9,512	1947	115	12.09	12	8	41.88	41	191	20.08	20.5
10,030	1948	95	9.47	10.8	6	34.48	34	174	17.35	17.9
10,270	1949	98	9.5	11.7	7	37.6	32	186	18.1	16.7
10,650	1950	146	13.7	11.6	10	54.35	29.8	184	17.28	15.8
12,040	1951	127	10.55	12.5	8	38.83	29.6	206	17.1	15.5
13,070	1952	117	8.95	11.3	10	47.62	27.6	210	16.07	15.3
14,600	1953	150	10.99	11.4	8	24.02	26.8	333	20.98	15.5
16,230	1954	140	10.6	11.3	10	25.91	25.5	386	21.6	15.2

**Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality  
and Case Rates for Infectious Disease, 1954**

	Rate per 1,000 Home pop.	
	Darlington R.D.C.	England and Wales
Births :—		
Live .. .. .	21.6	15.2
Still .. .. .	( 0.43 (17.8 (a)	( 0.36 (24.0 (a) <u>23.5</u>
Deaths :—		
All causes .. .. .	10.6	11.3
Whooping Cough .. .. .	—	0.00
Diphtheria .. .. .	—	0.00
Tuberculosis .. .. .	0.18	0.18
Influenza .. .. .	0.25	0.084
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio Encephalitis .. .. .	—	0.00
Pneumonia .. .. .	0.18	0.4841
NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED):		
Typhoid Fever .. .. .	—	0.00
Para-Typhoid Fever .. .. .	—	0.01
Meningococcal Infection .. .. .	0.06	0.03
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	0.86	0.96
Whooping Cough .. .. .	2.64	2.39
Diphtheria .. .. .	—	0.00
Erysipelas .. .. .	—	0.12
Small Pox .. .. .	—	—
Measles .. .. .	4.9	3.32
Pneumonia .. .. .	—	0.59
Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)		
Paralytic .. .. .	0.06	0.03
Non-Paralytic .. .. .	—	0.01
Food Poisoning .. .. .	0.06	0.20
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	—	17.74 (a)
DYSENTERY		0.72
	Rate per 1,000 live births	
Deaths under 1 year of age	25.9	25.5
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years .. .. .	—	<del>0.00</del> 0.8

(a) per 1,000 total births.

The total number of cases admitted to Isolation Hospital was 13 as against 12 for 1953.

Infectious Disease	Suspected	Confirmed
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	—	1
Diphtheria .. .. .	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis, Paralytic ..	—	1
Meningococcal Infection .. ..	—	2
Tuberculosis, Respiratory .. ..	—	7

## LABORATORY WORK

### Bacteriological Examinations

#### FAECES

Number of Specimens	Enteric Positive	Dysentery Positive	Food Poisoning Positive
33	—	1	1

#### THROAT SWABS

Number of Specimens	Diphtheria Positive	Haemolytic Streptococci Positive	Other Organisms
11	—	1	8

#### SPUTUM

Number of Specimens	Tuberculosis Positive
6	2

#### URINE

Number of Specimens	Organisms Positive
1	—

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Number of Specimens	Staphylococcus Aureus Positive	Haemolytic Streptococci Positive
4	1	1



# NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table of cases as notified set out in age groups.

	At all ages	Under 1		1—2		3—4		5—9		10—14		15—24		25 and over		Age unknown		Total Deaths	Hospital	Home
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
Scarlet Fever ..	14	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	7	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	13
Diphtheria ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia																				
Neonatorum ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	5(a)	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—
Poliomyelitis :																				
(a) Paralytic	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
(b) Non-Paralytic	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Influenza)	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever																				
(incl. Paratyphoid)	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	79	1	—	8	6	13	8	20	21	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	79
Whooping Cough ..	43	1	3	6	2	2	6	11	10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	43
Food Poisoning ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1(a)	—
	149	2	3	15	8	17	15	36	41	3	3	—	—	3	1	1	1	—	12	137

(a) these cases occurred in an Institution.

# NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table of cases as notified after correction set out in age groups.

	At all ages	Under 1		1—2		3—4		5—9		10—14		15—24		25 and over		Age unknown	Total Deaths	Hos- pital	Home
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Scarlet Fever ..	14	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	7	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	13
Diphtheria ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	5(a)	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis :																			
(a) Paralytic ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non-Paralytic ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Infl.) ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (includ. Paratyphoid) ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	79	1	—	8	6	13	8	20	21	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	79
Whooping Cough ..	43	1	3	6	2	2	6	11	12	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	43
Food Poisoning ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1(a)	—
	146	2	3	15	8	17	15	34	41	3	3	—	—	2	1	1	1	9	137

149 cases of infectious diseases were notified as against 247 notifications in 1953.

(a) these cases occurred in an Institution.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of Persons Immunised for which records were received  
during the year

Primary Immunisations							
Age at date of Primary Immunisation							
Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
111	95	8	4	10	10	4	242

Reinforcing Injections							
Age at date of Reinforcing Injection							
Under 1	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
—	—	—	1	16	24	3	44

### Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths, 1954

One notification was received (not confirmed) during the year and no deaths occurred.

## TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality during 1954.

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory male female		Non-Respira'y male female		Respiratory male female		Non-Respira'y male female	
Under 1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10 ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
11—15 ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20 ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25 ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
26—35 ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45 ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46—55 ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
56—65 ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
66 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	7	3	1	—	2	1	—	—

The total number of new cases for 1954 was 10 pulmonary and one non pulmonary against a total of 11 cases of pulmonary and three of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis for the year 1953.

Three deaths occurred during 1954 (all pulmonary) as against five deaths (pulmonary) registered the previous year

Tuberculosis Mortality Rate (Respiratory) 1954 — 0.18  
(Non-Respiratory) 1954 — Nil.

Table showing new cases and Mortality during the past 10 years

Year	New Cases				Mortality			
	Respiratory		Non-Respira'y		Respiratory		Non-Respira'y	
	male	female	male	female	male	female	male	female
1945 ..	1	2	1	2	1	1	—	—
1946 ..	1	3	1	—	1	—	1	—
1947 ..	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	1
1948 ..	4	3	2	1	—	1	—	—
1949 ..	4	2	—	—	2	2	—	1
1950 ..	1	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
1951 ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
1952 ..	2	3	—	—	—	1	1	—
1953 ..	5	6	—	3	4	1	—	—
1954 ..	7	3	1	—	2	1	—	—

Number of Cases on register

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
Year	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1949	13	9	22	6	4	10
1950	11	9	20	6	4	10
1951	11	10	21	6	5	11
1952	12	16	28	5	5	10
1953	18	21	39	4	8	12
1954	18	26	44	5	8	13

Food Poisoning

- (a) Total No. of outbreaks .. .. Nil.
- (b) No. of Cases .. .. Nil.
- (c) No. of deaths .. .. Nil.
- (d) Organism responsible .. .. Nil.
- (e) Food involved .. .. Nil.

The case notified was not suffering from food poisoning but was proved to be a carrier.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

No action was taken under this section.

# **HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL) IN YOUR AREA**

## **Residential Hostel Accommodation**

The County Council provide hostel accommodation for aged, infirm and handicapped persons, but the accommodation at present is limited. Application for assistance should be made to the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 133.

## **Home Nursing**

A Home Nursing service is provided by the County Council, and any requests for a district nurse should be made to the nurses in your area or to the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 51.

## **Vaccination and Immunisation**

- (a) Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained free of charge on application to any medical practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service Scheme. Facilities are also available for the vaccination of children at maternity and child welfare centres.
- (b) Immunisation against diphtheria may be carried out on application to maternity and child welfare centres or to any general practitioner operating under the National Health Service Act, free of charge.

## **Domiciliary Midwifery Service**

Names and addresses of the midwives available may be obtained from the child welfare centres, medical practitioners or the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 51.

## **Domestic Help**

Domestic helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity or other household emergencies. A charge for the service is made in accordance with income scales. Application should be made through the district health visitors or the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 1616.

## **Health Visitors**

This service is maintained by the County Council and the health visitor is the connecting link between the home and the health activities of the County Council. Details of the health visitors serving the area may be obtained from the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 305.

## **Ambulance Service**

Ambulance transport may be obtained on application to the nearest control, Telephone No. Darlington 3333. Except in cases of emergency, applications should be made by medical practitioners, hospitals, midwives, or dentists. Ambulances can be booked in advance on the production of a certificate from a medical practitioner certifying the need for transport.



## Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Facilities are available for the assistance of sick persons in any manner which may be necessary, e.g. the provision of extra nourishment, sick room requisites, invalid chairs, etc. Advice may be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 35. A charge may be made for this service under certain circumstances according to income scale.

## Mental Health Services.

A comprehensive scheme is provided by the County Council. Details and assistance can be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 237 or to the Duly Authorised Officer, Telephone No. Stockton 66911.

## CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Arrangements exist for mothers and children under 5 years to attend Darlington Borough Clinics where this is more convenient. County clinics to serve certain areas of the Rural District are held as shown in the following table. Advice can also be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, 42 Old Elvet, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 301.

Address of Centre	Sessions	
<b>Sedgefield</b> Surveyor's Office <i>Tel. Sedgefield 244</i>	Ante-natal Clinic	Alternate Tuesday mornings.
	Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Tuesday afternoons and alternate Thursday afternoons.
<b>Shildon</b> Friends Meeting House, Byerley Road.	Ante-natal Clinic	Alternate Wednesdays.
	Child Welfare Centre	Monday and Friday afternoons weekly.
	Ultra Violet Ray Clinic	
<b>Chilton</b> Red Cross Station	Ante-natal Clinic	Alternate Wednesday mornings.
	Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Wednesday afternoons.
<b>Middleton-St.-George</b> The Parochial Hall	Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Monday afternoons.
<b>Newton Aycliffe</b> Community Centre	Ante-natal Clinic	Alternate Thursdays.
	Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Thursdays.

## **Maternity Homes and Hospitals**

These are controlled by the Regional Hospital Board but applications for admission should be made to the medical officers at the maternity and child welfare centres shown in the previous table.

Accommodation for unmarried mothers is available at maternity homes provided by the Regional Hospital Board, and the Durham Diocesan Moral Welfare Association also maintain homes for unmarried mothers and their babies. Application for admission should be made to the medical officers at the child welfare centres.

Homeless children can be admitted to residential nurseries or cottage homes administered by the County Council of Durham.

## **Convalescent Home**

The E.F. Peile County Convalescent Home, Shotley Bridge (Tel. No. Shotley Bridge 27) is controlled by the County Council of Durham and admits nursing mothers and their babies and children under five years of age. Applications for admission should be made at the child welfare centres.

## **Clinics and Welfare Centres held in the County Borough of Darlington which are attended by Mothers from the Rural District**

### **Maternity and Child Welfare Centres—**

Corporation Road Methodist Schoolroom	—Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Thompson Street Methodist Schoolroom, North Road	—Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Albert Road—Schoolhouse, Albert Road	—Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Eastbourne Nursery School, Belgrave Street	—Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Wednesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Coniscliffe Road Methodist Schoolroom, Coniscliffe Road	—Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Cockerton Methodist Schoolroom, The Green, Cockerton	—Friday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Haughton-le-Skerne Church Hall	—Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

### **Ante-natal Clinics**

Eastbourne Nursery School, Belgrave Street.	—Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Albert Road—Schoolhouse, Albert Road	—Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

## **Services administered by the Regional Hospital Board**

### **Tuberculosis Service—**

Clinics are held at Hundens Unit, Hundens Lane, Darlington as follows :—

MALE	— Thursday mornings, 9-30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
FEMALE	— Friday mornings, 9-30 a.m. to 11 a.m. (by appointment only).

There are In-patient beds at Darlington Memorial Hospital (Hundens Unit) available but most cases requiring remedial sanatorium treatment are sent to Poole Sanatorium, or other Sanatoria in the County.

### **Special Treatment Service—Hundens Unit**

MALE — Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
Thursday and Friday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

FEMALE — Wednesday and Friday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

### **Infectious Disease**

There are 23 beds at Hundens Unit, Hundens Lane, Darlington.

### **General Hospital Accommodation**

There are 307 beds at Darlington Memorial Hospital and Hundens Unit.

### **Chronic Sick Accommodation**

There are 114 chronic sick beds at East Haven (Hospital Section), Yarm Road, Darlington, and 50 beds at Cambridge House (Hospital Section), Barnard Castle.

### **Maternity Accommodation**

There are 53 beds at Greenbank Maternity Hospital.

### **Sanatoria**

There are no sanatoria in the Darlington Group, but all cases requiring treatment will be dealt with in allocated beds as is possible, through the chest clinics detailed previously.



## SECTION B.

### WATER SUPPLY, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

#### Water

1. There is a piped water supply to the major part of the Rural District by public mains owned by the following statutory undertakers :—

Tees Valley Water Board.

Durham County Water Board.

Darlington Corporation.

Darlington Rural District Council.

Areas of distribution of each of the above will be seen in the appropriate table.

The parishes of Denton & Sockburn and the hamlet of Low Dinsdale as well as other isolated premises not connected to the public mains are supplied by springs and wells.

At Sadberge where the water is supplied by the Tees Valley Water Board, the quantity is rather limited owing to the size of the mains and lack of pressure therein.

In the parishes of Brafferton, Middleton-St.-George and Neasham the pressure of water and the size of mains are, I understand, such that it is not practical to make extensions which are needed in the parish or in adjacent parishes.

The quality of water supplied by the Durham County Water Board as judged by bacterial counts was unsatisfactory.

#### Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplied by the Durham County Water Board

In the 1952 and 1953 annual reports, reference was made to the unsatisfactory bacteriological quality of the water supplied by the Durham County Water Board.

The position had however so much improved as regards Newton Aycliffe and Great Stainton following the installation of a chlorinator at Ferryhill Reservoir that boiling notices were withdrawn at the end of 1953.

During the year under review 20 samples were sent from Newton Aycliffe and Great Stainton and results received were 18 Class I (highly satisfactory), 1 Class II (satisfactory) and 1 Class III (suspicious).

Towards the end of 1953 high bacterial counts were found in water supplied to hitherto unaffected parts of the district—Aycliffe Village, Heighington, Walworth, Walworth Gate and Redworth.

During 1954 68 samples of water from these parts of the district were sent for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory. Of the samples 30 were Class I, 16 were Class II, 10 were Class III and 12 were Class IV.

The Durham County Water Board received copies of results obtained from the Public Health Laboratory. The majority of the Class III and Class IV results occurred in the second half of the year and were due, on information received from the Durham County Water Board, to breakdown of chlorinators and bursts in the water main.

21 samples were taken from the North Eastern Trading Estate which is supplied through a reservoir belonging to the Trading Estate. Of these 8 were Class I, 2 Class II, 7 Class III and 4 Class IV. Results of sampling at this reservoir indicated some local pollution and the District Manager arranged for the washing out of the reservoir, for certain repair work, and for local chlorination.

### GENERAL WATER SAMPLES

Date	Place	Plate Count 2 days 37°C.	Coliform 2 days 37°C.	Faecal Coli	Class
12. 1.54	Denton Hall	—	160	159	IV.
16. 3.54	No. 2 Denton Village	—	25	25	IV.

I am not able to advise you of any settlement being reached with the Raby Estates agent regarding the water supply at Denton which was the subject of unsatisfactory reports in last year's report. We had interviews with the agent and are hoping that he will make the necessary arrangements for obtaining a bulk supply from an adjacent public main.

Date	Place	Plate Count 2 days 37°C.	Coliform 2 days 37°C.	Faecal Coli	Class
15/ 9/54	Brafferton Farm	—	180+	50	IV.
29/ 9/54	Brafferton Farm	—	180+	1	IV.
10/11/54	Brafferton Farm	—	—	—	I.
24/11/54	Brafferton Farm	—	—	—	I.
8/12/54	Brafferton Farm	—	25	—	IV.
12/ 1/54	West Farm, Heighington	—	25	25	IV.

These samples were taken at the request of the owners in connection with the erection of a new dwelling house or improvements.

The following is a list giving the degrees of hardness for each supply :—

	DEGREE OF HARDNESS
Durham County Water Board	4·8 to 8 degrees.
Darlington Corporation	128 parts per million.

	AVERAGE HARDNESS IN PARTS PER MILLION		
	TOTAL	TEMPORARY	PERMANENT
Water Board River Tees.	90	65	25
Gravitation Supply.	40	25	15

No waters in the are known to have plumbo-solvent action.

The proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of the population supplied from the public main is as follows :—

PARISH	No. of Occupied Houses	Approx. Population	Water Authority Supplying	Direct to the house		By means of stand pipe	Total houses supplied	% of houses supplied	Pop. supplied direct	Pop. supplied by stand pipe
				Open	Meter					
Archdeacon Newton	17	56	Church Commissioners	—	11	—	11	64.7%	36	—
Newton Aycliffe	1845	6,088	D.C.W.B.	1,844	1	—	1,845	100%	6,088	—
Aycliffe	241	796	D.C.W.B.	189	12	39	240	99.6%	664	129
Barmpton	28	92	D.R.D.C. Bulk Supply from D'ton Corporation,	11	4	—	15	53.5%	46	—
Bishopton	97	320	T.V.W.B.	80	14	—	94	96.9%	310	—
Blackwell	150	495	Darlington Corporation	124	20	—	144	96.0%	475	—
Brafferton	48	158	D.R.D.C.	36	7	—	43	89.6%	142	—
Great Burdon	22	73	T.V.W.B.	17	3	—	20	90.9%	73	—
Coatham Mundeville	46	152	D.R.D.C. & D.C.W.B.	28	11	—	39	84.8%	129	—
High Coniscliffe	92	304	T.V.W.B.	71	14	—	85	92.4%	282	—
Low Coniscliffe	96	316	T.V.W.B.	85	10	—	95	98.9%	314	—
Denton	20	66	Raby Estates Private Supply	16	—	—	16	80.0%	53	—
Low Dinsdale	139	459	T.V.W.B.	121	6	—	127	91.4%	420	—
East & West Newbiggen	9	30	T.V.W.B.	—	4	—	4	44.4%	13	—
Great Stainton	25	82	D.C.W.B.	12	8	—	20	80%	66	—
Heighington	358	1,181	D.C.W.B.	260	61	3	224	90.5%	1,171	10
Houghton le Side	23	76	D.C.W.B.	3	8	—	11	47.8%	36	—
Hurworth	517	1,706	T.V.W.B.	472	25	—	497	96%	1,648	—
Killerby	23	76	T.V.W.B.	18	3	—	21	91.3%	70	—
Little Stainton	16	53	T.V.W.B.	6	9	—	15	93.8%	53	—
*Middleton-St.-George	563	†2,858	T.V.W.B.	536	16	—	552	98.0%	2,832	—
Morton Palms	15	50	T.V.W.B.	5	7	—	12	80.0%	40	—
Neasham	100	330	T.V.W.B.	74	6	—	80	80.0%	266	—
Piercebridge	53	175	T.V.W.B.	43	4	—	47	88.7%	156	—
Sadberge	175	577	T.V.W.B.	154	17	—	171	97.7%	566	—
Sockburn	8	26	T.V.W.B.	5	—	—	5	62.5%	17	—
Summerhouse	29	96	T.V.W.B.	28	2	—	29	100%	96	—
Walworth	34	112	Walworth Estates	17	11	—	28	82.4%	93	—
Whesoe	146	482	D.C.W.B.	126	11	—	137	93.8%	452	—
	4,935	17,285	D.R.D.C. D'ton Corp.	4,381	305	42	4,727	95.8%	16,607	139

The discrepancy between the Registrar General figures of Population is accounted for by the growth of Newton Aycliffe between June, 1954 and December, 1954.

\* Includes 127 R.A.F. Married Quarters.  
† Includes H.M. Forces stationed in district.

## Improvements

In 1950 the adjacent local authority, Sedgefield Rural District Council, commenced a scheme whereby a 4 in. main was to be laid from Travellers Rest to Stainton Hill House. Further progress was made on this main and it is hoped to be completed early in 1955.

This affords a means by which a few farm properties and agricultural land can be watered in the parishes of Brafferton and Great Stainton adjacent to our boundary.

## Proposals

1. Consideration was given to an application by the National Farmers Union regarding the need for improved water supply at Great Stainton, particularly in connection with three outlying farms. The Council decided to extend from Great Stainton subject to the owners and tenants of the farms concerned giving an undertaking to connect to the proposed new main. The estimated cost of the scheme was £2,032 and details are to be submitted to the Ministry to ascertain the amount of grant aid.

2. Further consideration was given to the Low Middleton area and Low Dinsdale and Sockburn schemes mentioned in previous reports. It was decided that in view of the excessive cost of the scheme the matter would have to be deferred.

3. The Council's attention was drawn to the inadequacy of supplies to outlying farms in the Ketton area. A Committee of the Council met owners and farmers to discuss the matter. A rough estimate of the cost of the proposed extension was £4,032 and the Committee decided to obtain proper estimates of the cost from the undertakers.

4. A proposal was made to extend the Tees Valley Water Board main in Great Burdon Village to Burdon Hall. The Council are to seek estimates of the cost, and subject to the owners and occupiers of adjacent land undertaking to connect to the supply, the Tees Valley Water Board may be requested to extend the main at the Council's expense.

5. The Council were informed of the inadequacy of the water supply to parts of Burtree Lane in the West Auckland Road area. In view of the nearness of this part of the area to Darlington Corporation water mains the matter was left over for further consideration.

6. Consideration was given to the improvement of water supplies in the Piercebridge area (Cock Lane, Piercebridge Station to Hopewell). However, a committee of the Council was not convinced of the need and the matter was deferred.

7. A Committee also considered the proposed extension of water mains in the Heighington area (Royal Oak to Newbiggen Moor) in connection with farm supplies. They decided, however, that the farms concerned were within such distance as to make it reasonable for the owners to connect.

8. The Council received proposals from the Darlington Corporation to extend their water main in Neasham Road to the



premises of Darlington Auction Mart Co. Ltd., on the boundary of the rural district and thence along Roundhill Road, all in the parish of Hurworth.

## **Sewerage and Sewage Disposal**

### **Aycliffe Sewage Disposal Works**

These works dealt with a total of 404,384 gallons per day (dry weather flow) made up of 185,086 gallons from the New Town of Newton Aycliffe and 219,298 gallons from the Trading Estate. These sewage works are modern, complete with three sedimentation tanks (total capacity 255,936 gallons), four rotary filters (total capacity 4,000 cub. yds.), four humus tanks (total capacity 101,300 gallons), sludge digestion tanks (total capacity 43,200 cub. ft.) and twelve sludge lagoons (1,175 sq. yds.) There is pumping plant for dealing with the re-circulation of the effluent from the filters, drainage from the sludge beds and sludge from the humus tanks.

It will be remembered that in my previous report attention was drawn to the result of analysis indicating that the sewage from the new town was found to be of a very strong character, and that from the trading estate contained mainly trade waste which varied in strength considerably.

Early in the year the Council agreed that a complete set of samples be taken from various parts of the works and a consultant chemist, was called in to carry out the analysis and submit a report.

His report received in July indicated that the sewage from Newton Aycliffe was slightly above average strength and from the trading estate was only comparable with a weak sewage. It was indicated that the existing works should be capable of dealing with between 500,000 and 600,000 gallons providing that an additional sludge drying area was provided and the humus tanks were improved.

Other minor items were recommended and received attention.

Owing to pressure of work in the department slow progress was made on the actual report to be submitted to the Council for works extensions. It must be appreciated, however, that a considerable amount of the time was spent on carrying out minor adjustments to the works and on further sampling it was found necessary early in the year to put the double filtration plant into full use.

It is hoped that the report will be completed before the end of next year.

In connection with the effluent from the trading estate, the Sewage Works Manager has continued to visit pre-treatment works on various factories to avoid unsatisfactory effluent being discharged for treatment at the works.

### **Newton Aycliffe**

The Council took over the pumping station referred to in the previous report. This station was erected by the Development Corporation to deal with sewage from part of the new town.

The sewer is approximately 18 ft. deep and there are two pumps capable of dealing with 124 cub. ft. per minute.

### **Middleton St. George Sewage Works**

These works dealt with approximately 70,000 gallons per day (dry weather flow) from Middleton-St.-George in the parishes of Middleton-St.-George and Low Dinsdale. The works are entirely inadequate and are the subject of proposals by the Council's Consultant.

The Council took over part of a private drain in Neasham Road running from the County School to the drain connection with the Council main sewer in Middleton Lane.

### **Bishopton Sewage Works**

For some little time difficulty has been experienced in preventing ponding on the surface of the filter. The filter media was renewed and it is hoped to obtain a slightly better effluent as a result.

### **Proposals Aycliffe**

During the year the Ministry authorised the taking of tenders for the second instalment of Aycliffe Village Sewerage Scheme. The Council accepted a tender amounting to £11,563 1s. 9d. and work is expected to commence early next year.

This scheme provides sewers in the old village and also for their connection to the pumping station which was built as part of the first instalment of the scheme.

### **Middleton-St.-George**

During the year the Council received a report on the amended scheme submitted by their Consultant. The estimated cost of the work was £63,000. The scheme was approved and details were submitted to the Ministry for information regarding grant aid.

The scheme was for a completely new sewage disposal works and ejector station and certain lengths of new sewers allowing for more separation of surface water.

### **Hurworth**

The Council received a preliminary report from their Consultant regarding proposals for new works and sewerage improvements at an estimated cost of £29,300. This report is to be considered by a special sub-committee.

### **Whessoe**

Approval was not given to this scheme, details of which were submitted to the Ministry last year. At that time the Ministry advised the Council that the scheme would be desirable in normal circumstances but the need for it was not so urgent that they could authorise it at present. The scheme was to be kept under review.

No further progress was made regarding the proposed amendment of the scheme to allow for an extension of the sewer along Burtree Lane to deal with certain smallholdings in that area, consideration of the matter being deferred.

The Council, having agreed to build eight houses at Hartlea Avenue, decided to provide a small sewage works and irrigation area to deal with this and some ten existing houses at an estimated cost of £700. It is hoped that this work will commence early next year.

### Other Schemes

There is no change with regard to certain other schemes of which the Ministry acknowledged receipt last year. At the time they pointed out that they did not appear to be of such an urgent character as would justify authorising procedure with them at the present time.

						£
Low Coniscliffe and Merrybent	..	..				16,973
Piercebridge	..	..	..	..	..	10,034
Brafferton	..	..	..	..	..	5,650
Bishopton	..	..	..	..	..	10,388

Similarly the Ministry also received preliminary reports and costs for the villages of Sadberge (£3,750) and High Coniscliffe (£4,850). Here too they deferred consideration.

A letter however was received from the Ministry regarding priorities for schemes in the Council's area and the following were given :—

- (a) Bishopton, Great Burdon and Middleton-St.-George schemes.
- (b) Brafferton and High Coniscliffe schemes.
- (c) Piercebridge scheme.
- (d) Whessoe scheme.

Preliminary reports were completed on schemes for Summerhouse and Killerby details of which will be submitted to the Council next year.

### General

The only other parts of the Council's area requiring survey for sewerage and sewage disposal are as follows :—

Blackwell, Neasham, Denton, Barmpton, Houghton-le-Side, Coatham Mundeville and Walworth.

### Maintenance of Council's Sewage Works and Sewers

Most Cesspools in the area have been emptied during the year with the use of a mechanical gully emptier hired from Darlington Corporation. Difficulty has been experienced regarding the hire of this machine and the Council are being asked to consider the purchase of a machine.

Council workmen carry out the maintenance, repair and cleansing



of all sewerage and sewage disposal works in the district. Sewerage and sewage disposal works at Heighington, Redworth, Bishopton, Great Burdon, Middle-on-St.-George, Sadberge and Hurworth were visited by sanitary labourers each week for inspection and minor maintenance work. Other works attached to some of the smaller villages and hamlets were periodically visited for the same purpose. A mobile sanitary squad is employed to visit each works of sewage disposal and sewerage for major maintenance purposes including emptying of tanks, the cleansing of gutters and in some cases the dragging of sewers.

All the work is done by direct labour, the Council employing about seven men for the purpose, including a sewage works manager at Aycliffe and a foreman.

Consideration was given by the Council for the need for machinery for the removal of sludge at the Aycliffe Sewage Works. It is expected that machinery will be demonstrated at the sewage works next year.

The cost of the service for the financial year 1954/55 was £6,788 which represents about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. rate. The cost of the service for the previous year was £8,332 representing a  $1\frac{1}{7}$ d. rate. This cost includes loan charges on works as well as workmen's wages, materials, electricity charges, etc.

Considerable difficulty is being experienced in recruiting labour for this work and during the year we were two men short.

### **River and Streams (River Pollution Prevention)**

During the year the Wear and Tees River Board who are responsible for the prevention of pollution of the rivers and streams in the area have continued to work in close co-operation with the department.

Analyses of effluents from sewage works in the area show that in the majority of cases the effluents are below standard. Most of these analyses were of effluents from our own sewage works and are indicative of the need for new works or extensions.

During the period under review the Pollution Officer of the Wear and Tees River Board was kept advised as to the position regarding our new schemes for sewerage and sewage disposal and of any improvements carried out to our existing works.

### **Public Scavenging**

During the year refuse was collected from all houses approximately once a week. The only delays that occurred were due to public holidays or inclement weather when the men got a day or so behind with their work.

The following shows the area that each of the vehicles serves :—

1. Bedford Vehicle No. 1 (first registered 3rd November, 1946). Operated by driver and two men in the parishes of Bishop-ton, Great Stainton, Little Stainton, Great Burdon, Barmpton, Heighington, Sadberge and part Aycliffe Village.

2. Bedford Vehicle No. 2 (first registered 1st September, 1948). Operated by driver and three men in the parishes of Low Coniscliffe, High Coniscliffe, Piercebridge, Summerhouse, Killerby, Denton, Walworth, Houghton-le-Side, Whessoe, Coatham Mundeville and Brafferton.
3. Bedford Vehicle No. 3 (first registered 15th December, 1948). Operated by driver and two men in the parishes of Middleton-St.-George, Morton Palms, part of Low Dinsdale.
4. Bedford Vehicle No. 4 (first registered 22nd April, 1949). Operated by a driver and three men in the parishes of Hurworth, Neasham, part of Low Dinsdale, Sockburn and Blackwell.
5. Bedford Vehicle No. 5 (first registered 9th September, 1952). Operated by driver and four men in part of the parishes of Aycliffe, Newton Aycliffe and School Aycliffe.

Vehicles Nos. 1, 2 and 5 scavenging the northern part of the area are garaged at the Council's depot on the Aycliffe Trading Estate and vehicles Nos. 3 and 4 at a similar depot at Middleton-St.-George. The wet refuse from privy middens etc. is collected separately and tipped on various farm lands in the district and used as a fertilizer, the dry refuse, including tins and glass, are deposited on the Council tips at Brafferton, Heighington and Piercebridge in the northern part of the area. The tip at Middleton-St.-George is well situated for dealing with the whole of the refuse collected by vehicles Nos. 3 and 4 and should last for a few more years and will result in the filling in of a dangerous pond.

The tip at Brafferton is a new one situated well away from the village and will last for many years. It is to serve the new town, including the Trading Estate and northern parts of the area, leaving Heighington tip solely for the village of Heighington and the immediate adjoining area.

We are still able to obtain tipping land at Bishopton which prevents a long haul from this part of the Council's area to our tip at Brafferton.

Some trouble was experienced at Brafferton tip where refuse deposited by the North Eastern Trading Estate took fire. The Trading Estate have been asked to try and reduce the amount of inflammable material deposited on this tip, particularly saw dust and shavings.

There are 33 litter baskets throughout the Council's area, including 6 provided on the new town near the shopping centres. During the year the Council commenced street cleansing in the area in the neighbourhood of Ward "A" shopping centre at Newton Aycliffe.

Difficulty was experienced in the collection of refuse from the new town. The progress of building development was such that the Council decided to consider ordering a new refuse vehicle. It is suggested that this vehicle be of a large capacity to reduce the number of runs between the town and the tip.

The Council employ a working foreman to supervise both the scavenging and sanitary service and a van for transportation.

The cost of the scavenging service during the financial year ending 31st March, 1955 was £10,981 which represents a rate of 1,11d. in the pound. The cost for the previous year was £12,070 representing a rate of 2/3½d. in the pound.

### **Cesspool Emptying**

The Council do not empty private cesspools in their area except in special circumstances where the cost is charged out to the persons concerned.

During the year we have been approached by many private ratepayers regarding the emptying of their cesspools and this is a chargeable service which could be provided with advantage to our ratepayers.

### **Public Conveniences**

#### **MIDDLETON-ST.-GEORGE**

A public convenience at Middleton-one-Row was completed and opened to the public. This convenience is sited on the river bank in an attractive part of the Council's area receiving an influx of visitors during the summer months.

#### **HURWORTH**

Considerable progress was made in connection with the erection of a public convenience at Hurworth Place. The estimated cost of this convenience is £1,094.

#### **AYCLIFFE**

No further progress was made in connection with the erection of a public convenience at Aycliffe owing to the absence of proper sewerage arrangements. Now that sewers are to be laid the matter will be raised again.

### **Other Public Conveniences**

The Council own a public convenience at Newton Aycliffe (Ward "A" shopping centre) and one at Heighington.

### **Closet Accommodation**

During the year 23 ash closets and 4 privy middens were converted into water closets under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The owners of the property concerned received a grant of £12 10s. 0d. for each conversion.

The Council paid £337 10s. 0d. in grants during the year, an increase of £75 on the previous year when 7 ash closets and 14 privy middens were converted.

The total conversions carried out since the commencement of the voluntary scheme in 1937 number 145 ash closets and 168 privy middens at a total cost to the Council of £2,992 11s. 9d.

## Sanitary Inspection

Summary of Inspections and Re-inspections under the Public Health Acts.	No. of Visits	No. of informal notices served	No. of informal notices remedied
Water Supplies .. .. .	5	—	—
Housing Inspections .. .. .	91	10	2
Ash Pits and Privy .. .. .	28	3	3
Water Closets .. .. .	5	1	1
Drainage .. .. .	10	2	1
Dangerous Buildings .. .. .	4	—	—
Moveable Dwellings .. .. .	9	—	—
Animal Nuisances .. .. .	1	3	3
Other Nuisances .. .. .	35	3	3
Totals	188	22	13

### No. of General Inspections and Visits

Dairies .. .. .	—
Sewage .. .. .	31
Water Supplies .. .. .	157
Foundations .. .. .	51
Buildings in Course of Erection .. .. .	65
Drains Inspected and tested .. .. .	296
Completed Properties .. .. .	128
Council Houses—repairs, etc. .. .. .	23
Food Inspection .. .. .	44
Miscellaneous (Building Licences, etc.) .. .. .	58
Infectious Diseases .. .. .	42
Tips .. .. .	25
Food Premises .. .. .	44
Rats .. .. .	3
Total ..	967

### Disinfestation

Six buildings were successfully treated against infestations of insects.

### Plans under the Council's Building Byelaws

The following is a list of plans submitted and approved under the Byelaws during the year :—

1. New houses, bungalows and shops .. .. .	40
2. Alterations, additions and conversions to houses .. .. .	54
3. Garages, Sheds, etc. .. .. .	29
4. Agricultural Buildings .. .. .	15
5. Drainage .. .. .	1
6. Factories .. .. .	18
7. Roads and Sewers .. .. .	2
8. Others .. .. .	18
Total ..	177



## **Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, Article 31**

For the purpose of these regulations the following information is submitted and no detailed report is available. The housing survey of the entire district was being carried out, and was only completed at the end of the year. A statement on the survey was given to the Council in February, 1955 whilst this report was being prepared. The Council have yet to consider this and submit their proposals.

### **Inspections under Housing Acts**

(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected	..	457
(b) Number of visits made for the purpose	.. ..	520
Category of houses inspected :—		
No. of dwelling houses fit in all respects	..	162
No. of dwelling houses requiring minor repairs	..	142
No. of dwelling houses requiring structural alterations or repairs	.. .. .	139
No. of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation		14

### **Housing Act, 1936**

No action was taken under Section 9, 11 or 25 of the Housing Act, 1936.

No houses were demolished as a result of demolition orders made in previous years.

## SECTION C.

### HOUSING

#### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

##### New Dwellings by Private Enterprise

Building licences for the erection of 12 houses at a cost of £32,542 were issued on behalf of the Council during the year, making a total of 104 building licences issued at a total cost of £188,703 since 1945. There were 19 licences for the erection of houses issued by the Ministry of Works during the year, the total number issued since 1945 being 39.

##### Erection of New Houses

Licences issued by the Council—25 houses were completed by private enterprise during the year, compared with 13 during 1953 making a total of 96 since 1945.

Licences issued by the Ministry — 3 houses were completed by private enterprise during the year making a total of 21 since 1945.

##### Civil Building Licences

The Council as Licensing Authority issued three licences in connection with conversions, repairs and maintenance of houses, etc., amounting to £5,867.

##### Control of Civil Building, Regulation 56a

All building and civil engineering works may be carried out without the need of a building licence as from 10th November, 1954.

##### Council Houses

During the year 19 houses were completed and occupied compared with 39 during 1953 making a total of 255 since 1944. All were of traditional brick.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Situation</i>	<i>Type of House</i>	<i>No. erected</i>
Aycliffe	Sewage Works	Brick	1
Heighington	Highside	Brick	14
Sadberge	Norton Crescent	Brick	2
Sadberge	Norton Road	Brick	2

Plans were approved for new premises as follows :—

- 38 Houses at Middleton-St.-George.
- 12 Houses at Aycliffe.
- 8 Houses at Whessoe.

## COUNCIL BUILDING PROGRESS 1948—1954

PARISH	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	Totals
Aycliffe	8	18	—	—	—	—	1	27
Brafferton	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
High Coniscliffe	4	—	—	—	—	6	—	10
Heighington	4	—	—	9	—	21	14	48
Hurworth	13	—	—	12	—	—	—	25
Middleton-St.-George	8	21	5	22	2	—	—	58
Sadberge	8	9	—	—	—	8	4	29
Summerhouse	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Walworth	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Great Stainton	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
	53	52	5	45	2	39	19	215

### Housing Act, 1949

Seven applications in respect of improvement grants were approved during the year compared with one in the previous year. For Improvement works in respect of dwellings completed, £999 17s. 6d. was paid for grants by the Council during the year.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

### (a) Licensed Sites

There is only one licensed site for six moveable dwellings in the area at Burtree Filling Station. The site has been run in a satisfactory manner, refuse being regularly removed from the site by the Council's service and there is a mains water supply available.

### (b) Moveable Dwelling Licences

The number of licences issued in the area at the end of the year was 3 compared with 10 during 1953.

## SECTION D.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

**Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and Byelaws made thereunder**

#### **Inspection of Meat and Other Foods**

Since the 5th July, 1954, four private slaughterhouses have operated in the area. Every effort has been made to carry out 100% inspection of animals slaughtered.

The following table shows the number of animals inspected up to the 31st December, 1954.

	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Other Bovines</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Routine	2	153	1	261	91	508
Casualties	1	—	1	1	—	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>511</b>

Carcases and portions thereof, and organs having a total weight 11 cwts. 6 stones 6 lbs. were found to be diseased or otherwise unfit for human consumption and were disposed of accordingly.

#### **Details of whole carcasses, etc., condemned**

	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>st.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
1 cow Extensive bruising and injury ..	4	5	7
1 calf Immaturity .. ..		3	3
1 sheep General dropsy .. ..		4	4
35 organs and parts Tuberculosis .. ..	5		
26 organs and parts Non-tubercular ..	1	1	6
<b>Totals .. ..</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>

Percentage of bovines affected with tuberculosis ..	..	11.76
Percentage of pigs affected with tuberculosis ..	..	2.2

#### **Details of Other Foods Condemned**

	<i>stones</i>	<i>pounds</i>	<i>ounces</i>
3 tins of ham .. ..	2	13	9
1 tin Corned Beef .. ..		3	
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>

Every opportunity is taken to examine meat exposed for sale in butcher shops and vans.

#### **Fatstock Guarantee Scheme**

The Council agreed to its two Sanitary Inspectors acting as certification officers in connection with private sale of pigs.



## Slaughterhouses and Butchers' Shops

Until the de-control of meat and livestock on 5th July, 1954, six slaughterhouses operated in the area for the occasional slaughter of "cottagers pigs". With the prospect of private slaughtering these premises were inspected and the owners acquainted with the works of improvement required before a licence would be granted.

Four slaughterhouses, one each at Aycliffe, Bishopton, Middleton-St.-George and Hurworth Place were put in order and licensed until December, 1955. These adequately provide for the requirements of the district.

The district is well served by ten butchers shops and several travelling butchers' vans from outside the area. The butchers' shops were inspected during the year and after minor improvements, were considered satisfactory.

Nine licences to slaughter animals were renewed during the year.

## Milk

There are 37 distributors of milk in the area of whom 27 are producer retailers (including 15 producing designated milk) seven are retailers only of designated milk and three retailers of non-designated milk.

Licences under the Special Designation Regulations were issued to the eight retailers as follows :—

- 2 Pasteurised.
- 5 Pasteurised and Tuberculin tested.
- 1 Sterilised.

The following supplementary licences were issued to distributors from outside the district.

Tuberculin Tested	—	3
Pasteurised	—	3
Sterilised	—	2

## Ice Cream

All registered premises have installed recognised thermostatically controlled refrigerators and sell pre-packed ice cream only.

## Food Premises

During the year 42 inspections of food premises were made. In one case the method of exposure of food for sale was unsatisfactory and the trader was requested to alter his methods.

With the exception of canteens on the North East Trading Estate and a few large firms food premises in the district consist mainly of the small family type of business. Lectures were not given this year to the canteen staffs but a clean Food Booklet was prepared consisting of a "food hygiene quiz" which explained the ways in which food may become dangerous, the methods of prevention of food contamination and the model Byelaws which were illustrated by means of photographs and rhymes. These booklets were taken

to the food premises by a Sanitary Inspector who in the course of his visits discussed the contents with the food handlers, and inspected the premises.

The following schedule indicates the number and type of food premises in the area together with the approximate category in which they fall.

	Public Houses, Hotels, Inns, Clubs, etc.	Cafes	Butchers' Shops	Fish Shops	General Dealers and Others
(a) Satisfactory in all respects ..	32	6	10	6	42
(b) Satisfactory in all respects except for sanitary accommodation	2	1	—	1	1
(c) Satisfactory in all respects except for washing facilities ..	1	—	—	—	2
(d) Satisfactory in all respects except for lighting and ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
(e) Satisfactory in all respects except for decoration and minor repairs	—	—	—	—	—
(f) Unsatisfactory (under more than one of the above headings) ..	6	—	—	—	4
	41	7	10	7	49

**Registration of Food Premises, Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14**

There were no new applications for registration of premises for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale. The total number of registered premises is 3.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the area. Six applications were received for registration of premises for the storage and sale of pre-packed ice cream. The premises were inspected, found to be suitable and registered. The total number of registered premises is now 30.

## SECTION E.

### FACTORIES ACT 1937 AND 1948

#### PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occu's. Pr'secuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	19	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authy.	105	5	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	16	16	—	—
Totals	140	21	—	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

(If defects were discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosec'n' were instituted
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	—	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	*1	—	—	—
Total ..	1	2	—	—	—

\*Means of Escape in Case of Fire (Certificates).

## SECTION F.

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### **Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act and Regulations, 1951**

There are no manufacturers in the district but five registered premises where these materials are used.

#### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949**

During the year the Council's sewers were test baited and treated as recommended by the Ministry.

5 local government properties, 10 dwelling houses and 5 business premises were found to be infested and successfully treated.

Fifteen complaints were received and dealt with.

#### **Schools**

No further information has been received from the County Council regarding water carriage arrangements at Neasham and Denton.

### BYELAWS IN FORCE IN DISTRICT

#### **Building Byelaws**

The Council's Building Byelaws were amended on the 7th April, 1952, to allow for the substitution of 7ft. 6 in. ceiling heights for 8 ft. The amendment in the Byelaws came into effect as and from 1st August, 1952.

New Streets	9th May, 1938.
Slaughter Houses	1st June, 1938.
Food Handling	8th May, 1950.

#### **Petroleum (Regulation) Act, 1928—36**

One new and 66 renewals of application for licences to keep petroleum spirit were received during the year.







